



REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
AND
Superintending School Committee,
OF THE TOWN OF
KENSINGTON,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1886.



EXETER, N. H.:
GAZETTE STEAM PRINT.
1886.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

VALUATION OF THE TOWN,

No of polls 153	\$ 15300 00
Improved and unimproved land and buildings	216549 00
Horses 140	Value 7640 00
Oxen 104	5835 00
Cows 378	9076 00
Neat stock 103	1645 00
Sheep 351	1223 00
Hogs, taxable, 7	73 00
Carriages, taxable, 15	820 00
Bank Stock	4400 00
Funds	1000 00
Money	4785 00
Stock in trade	2955 00
Mills 2	250 00

	\$ 271561 00

Rate of taxation, 95c per hundred in District No. 1; 97c in District No. 2.

Highway tax 15c per hundred.

APPROPRIATIONS.

State tax,	\$580 00
County tax,	718 31
Schools,	600 00
Interest on debt,	100 00
Contingent,	500 00
Settees,	50 00
Highways and bridges, in labor,	400 00

Total,	\$2,948 31

TOWN DEBT.

Two bonds at 5 per cent,	\$2000 00
Remaining in Collector's hands for 1875, \$ 20 75	
" " 1882, 17 20	
" " 1883, 6 01	
" " 1884. 36 47	
" " 1885, 96 30	
In hands of Treasurer,	_____
	\$712 67

JOSIAH D. PRESCOTT, } Selectmen
 LEVI B. TILTON, } of
 OSCAR W. BROWN, } Kensington.

2 9 4 8 3 1	non rend due	2 6 1 0 5 4
<u>2 5 0 0 0</u>	high way tax	<u>9 6 3 5</u>
2 5 9 8 3 1	41 dog tax	2 7 0 8 8 5
<u>2 6 3 9 2 1</u>		<u>2 6 3 9 8 1</u>
6 9 5 4		6 7 5 4 free rent added
2 7 0 6 8 5		

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Joseph W. Brown, Treasurer, in account with the town of Kensington for the year ending March 1, 1886:

DR.

To cash received of L. S. Sanborn, Treasurer,	\$136 61
Selectmen of 1884, balance from sale of Paul	
Ordway, land,	5 00
John F. Gill, Collector 1884,	113 56
Daniel E. Palmer, " 1885,	2610 55
Frank A. Mace, " 1882,	5 26
Levi B. Tilton, " 1883,	2 98
State Treasurer, railroad tax,	22 94
" " Savings Bank tax,	408 51
Literary fund,	63 44
Bounties,	14 50
County on account of Betsey Greenleaf,	104 00
" " Jemima Hilton,	77 00
T. H. Blake, for use of Town Hall,	5 00

	\$3569 35

CR.

Paid State tax,	\$580 00
County tax,	718 31
Support of Schools,	663 94
Support of poor,	181 00
Highways and bridges,	140 12
Contingent expenses,	299 62
Non-resident highway taxes,	36 07
Abatements,	20 09
Services of town Officers,	217 53

	\$2,856 68
Remaining in hands of Treasurer,	\$712 67

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid John A. Blake, prudential committee,	\$ 328 47
Frank A. Mace, " district No. 2.	335 47
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	\$ 663 94

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid for support of Betsey Greanleaf,	\$ 104 00
" Jemima Hilton,	77 00
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	\$ 181 00

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid A. Hilliard, 7 days with road machine,	\$ 14 00
T. C. Shaw, extra labor and bridge plank.	15 80
C. R. Gove, " and plow broken,	2 25
J. D. Prescott, labor on bridge,	5 40
L. S. Sanborn, 7 hours on bridge and materials,	1 55
Sidney C. Chase, labor on highway,	60
Samuel Batchelder, "	5 85
B. F. Rowe, "	2 85
Oscar W. Brown, " district No. 9,	4 92
" making snow paths, "	3 25
Stephen C. Sawyer, labor on highway,	7 27
Charles W. Foss.	"
Jeremiah Dow,	12 45
A. Hilliard,	7 00
Levi B. Tilton,	1 32
S. M. Kimball,	28 48
Clinton Gove,	and material, 3 85
Weare N. Shaw, snow bill, March 1885,	2 05
T. C. Shaw, " 1886,	1 78
Willie N. Dow, " 1885 and 1886,	15 55
George M. Gove, labor on highway,	1 95
Oscar W. Brown, "	1 20
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	\$ 140 12

CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

Paid W. B. Morrill, printing town reports 1884,	\$12 00
Auditors bill, March, 1885,	2 50
Damage to sheep by dogs in 1884.	
Paid J. D. Prescott,	\$25 60
J. P. Lamprey,	19 20
W. N. Shaw,	12 80
S. P. Tuck,	4 80
Wm. H. Wadleigh,	4 80
J. A. Blake,	3 20
B. G. Moulton,	9 60
Paid Dr. Douglass, two certificates,	50
Dr. Davis, three "	75
T. H. Blake, clearing burying ground, five days,	6 50
bill for twelve settees for town hall,	39 00
Dr. Bartlett, two certificates,	50
Selectmen, bounties on 145 woodchucks,	14 50
L. E. Hoag, interest on two town bonds,	100 00
W. S. Hobbs, maintaining public watering	
trough, 1885	2 00
School Com., for books furnished schools,	2 90
Ira Fellows, eight times with hearse,	10 00
A. Hilliard, storing road machine,	2 00
S. C. Chase, repairing road machine,	2 00
J. H. Batchelder, blank books, paper, &c.,	4 67
Joseph Poor, public watering trough,	3 00
Amos T. Rowe, making taxes,	11 00
T. H. Blake, care of Town House,	2 50
J. D. Prescott, stationery and postage,	1 28
Frank Poor, 1-2 cord wood,	1 75
J. D. Prescott, sawing wood,	37
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	299 62

ABATEMENTS.

Paid Oscar W. Hodgdon, poll tax 1883,	\$ 1 49
Jonathan F. Badger. " 1883, over 70,	1 49
Oscar W. Hodgdon, " 1882,	1 71
Joseph Poor, " 1885, over 70,	95
Charles W. Foss, on horse that died,	32
Andrew J. Shaw, on cow "	22
Henry S. Rowe, poll tax, 1884,	83
Charles R. Rowe. "	83
Harrison Rowe, cow that died,	27
Charles C. Dow, ox and cow that died,	74
Weare N. Shaw, horse that died,	48
James H. Philbrick, poll tax 1885,	97
James M. Davis, "	97
Samuel Lamprey, "	97
Charles C. Dow, "	97
Philip Young, "	97
Amos Goodwin, "	97
Wm. McPherson, tax 1885,	1 97
James W. W. Brown, poll tax 1885,	97
Lavinia Wadleigh,	2 00
	—
	\$ 20 09

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid T. H. Blake, services Town Clerk,	\$25 00
Town Treasurer, services,	20 00
School Committee, "	15 00
Supervisors, March election, 1885,	6 00
J. N. Austin, "	2 00
Selectmen, perambulating town lines,	18 00
" bill for services,	97 50
J. F. Gill, collecting tax in part 1884,	1 40
Daniel E. Palmer, collecting tax in part 1885,	32 63

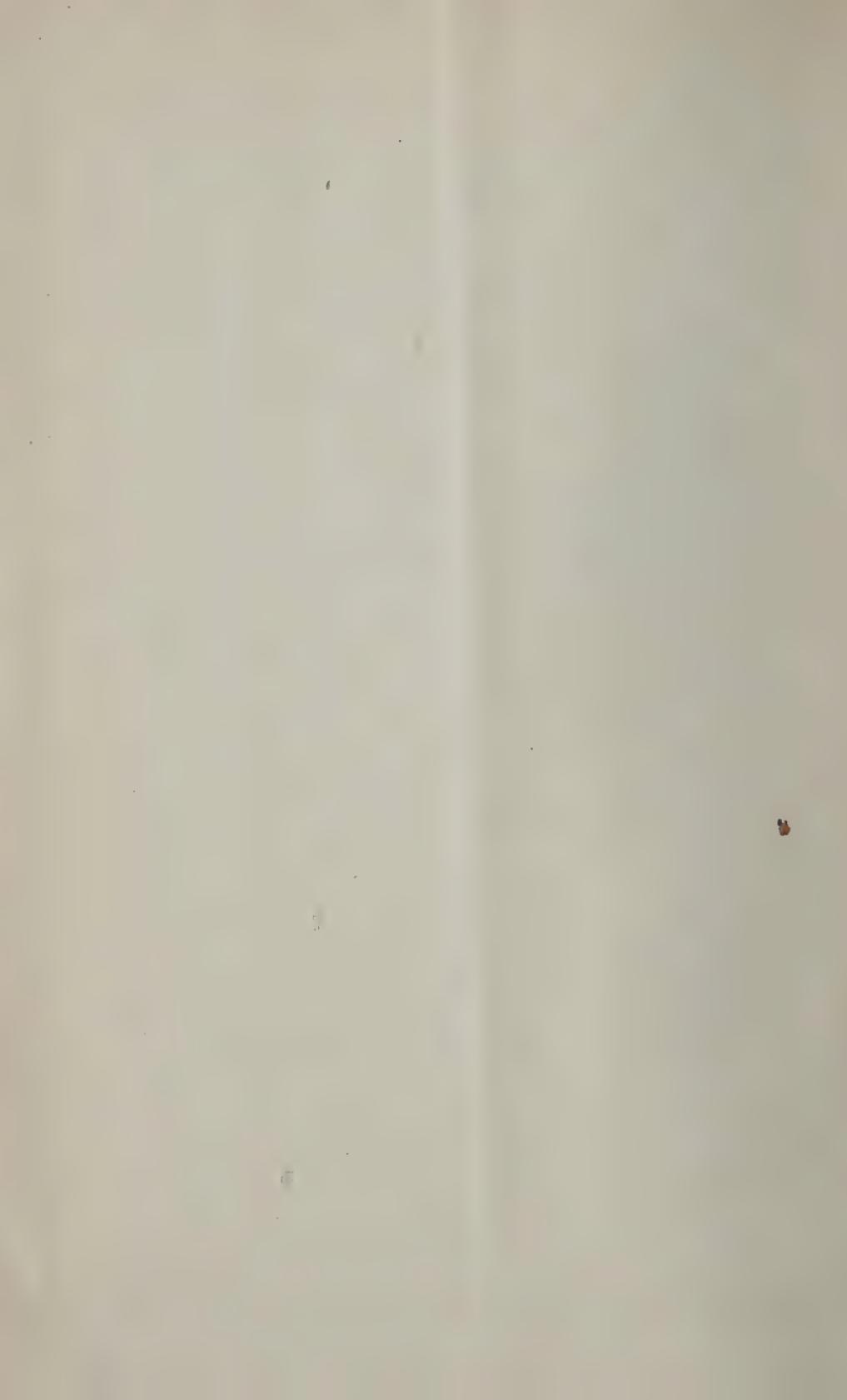
	\$217 53

AUDITORS' REPORT.

Kensington, March 2, 1886.

Having examined the foregoing accounts, we find them correctly cast and properly vouched and do hereby approve the same.

THOMAS H. BLAKE, }
DAVID BROWN, } Auditors.



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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Superintending School Committee
OF THE
TOWN OF KENSINGTON.

— — — — —
The School Committee respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1, 1886:

The whole number of children between the ages of five and fifteen years, as enumerated by the Selectmen in April 1885, was ninety six—fifty boys and forty six girls—located as follows, in District No. 1, twenty two boys and twenty one girls, total 43. District No. 2, twenty eight boys and twenty five girls, total 53, in town 96.

The last change in reading books (until now) was made in 1874, and in the report of that year we find the following: "This year new reading books have been introduced into our schools, which have done much to interest and improve the young." Report for 1860 says "Readers should be frequently changed." In Exeter report 1884 "careful observation has shown that an occasional change of books is beneficial, particularly reading books." Taking the above view of the subject, we this year made a change of reading books in all the schools at a cost of about thirty five dollars. The books bought were all new, while many of those discarded were badly

defaced, though most of them had covers. A few had just bought new books, such, we suppose had some cause for complaint, though we have heard of but little. The new books, are much in the descriptive, narrative, style in common use. Some of the reading is in script letters, but mostly in print. These books come recommended by reliable parties and can hardly fail to answer their purpose.

To secure uniformity in school books, greater expedition in furnishing and cheapness, such books necessary for the common studies, might be supplied by the town, as under the law of 1883, towns or districts may furnish suitable school books free of charge, and make suitable regulations in respect thereto. This town if desirous of aiding its schools, cannot probably do better than to adopt and put in practice, this method of supplying the schools with suitable books, thereby relieving the poor of a burden, and all, of the aggravation, abomination and possibly imposition where each patron of the schools has to hustle around to get the right kinds of books.

This year will be chosen a School Board, who will have entire charge of the schools, and five years are given to find out the advantages (if any) that such management will give. The town system was undoubtedly designed to give each scholar in town the same amount of schooling and it remains to be proved whether any arrangement to that end, can be effected here that would be satisfactory to the people in all parts of the town. Had it not been for a number of cases of scarletina in the west school, the attendance there would have been much better. At the last fall term we notified all who had not up to that time met the requirements of the law in regard to attendance, believing that those who were excusable would take it in good part, and hoping that the indifferent or thoughtless ones (if any) might be reminded that it was a good time to try and do better.

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The committee of 1863 said "Now we need not go many miles for a common alt^r, for one is placed almost within a "sabbath day's journey" of every family in New England—the school-room—the birth place of religious and republican liberty. Let us see that no ruthless hand be raised to desecrate this trust of our fathers." Hence, can any one conceive of greater iniquity than partisanship or boycotting in hiring or confirming teachers? And that teachers in all fairness and justice to consider themselves accountable while occupying such positions?

Eighty attended daily on all the schools, showing a good disposition of parents to keep children in the school room, and warrants good progress made in the different studies. Eight were kept away by the contagious disease mentioned, and three received instruction at home for considerable time. Fourteen of the larger scholars went out of town to higher schools.

No. of pupils under five years of age 2; between 5 and 15 years, 95; over 15 years, 8.

No. in town between 14 and 21 who cannot read and write 0.

Whole number of scholars of the town over five years of age 103.

No. between five and fifteen not having attended school 0.

No. attending to each study:—Reading 105; Spelling 105; Penmanship 86; Arithmetic 89; Geography 65; Grammar 43; History 21; Composition 37; Physiology 21; Book-keeping 7; Algebra 11; Philosophy 3; Drawing 7; Practiced singing 50.

Names of scholars present every half day for the school year, without being tardy: Mary W. Brown, Ned W. Brown, Herman E. Brown, Carrie E. Foss, Fay Kimball, Sarah Gove, Mary Hilliard, Bertie Rollins.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

JOHN A. BLAKE, Prudential Committee.

Miss Lizzie S. Titcomb, teacher.

Length of school in weeks. Spring term 9 weeks.
Fall term 10 weeks. Winter term 11 weeks.

Whole number of scholars attending school, 46. Attending to Reading 46; Spelling 46; Writing 39; Arithmetic 39; Geography 27; Grammar 18; Algebra 10; Physiology 11; Natural Philosophy 3; Book-keeping 4; History 11; Practical singing spring and fall terms 25; Composition 18; Average attendance 34.

Wages of teachers per month, thirty eight dollars.

In this school 12 were not absent the first term and 11 the second term.

DISTRICT NO. 2. (TWO SCHOOLS.)

FRANK A. MACE, Prudential Committee.

Miss Sadie S. Chase, teacher of East school.

Miss Mary A. Tilton, teacher of West school

Length in weeks of schools. Spring terms 9 weeks.
Summer terms 12 weeks. Fall terms 4 weeks.

Miss Chase remarks that, "nearly all of the scholars have shown a remarkable interest in their various studies, have been regular in attendance and consequently have made considerable progress. One class finished Franklin's Higher Arithmetic, another Harper's Higher Geography. Both classes were reviewed thoroughly at the close of the year, and had retained what they learned from day to day, as well as could be expected. The other classes did equally as well.

Materials necessary for the school have been promptly furnished by the Prudential Committee. Upon the whole the school has passed off quite pleasantly. I have done all in my power to have each scholar spend his or her time profitably." In Miss Chase's school 16 were present every half day of the first term, and 15 the third term.

Miss Tilton remarks "I hope this year of school has been as profitable as it has been pleasant. With a few exceptions the scholars have been regular in attendance and have manifested an interest in their studies. The branches in which they have been particularly interested are Grammar and Arithmetic, therefore in those they have made the most improvement, but trust they have made commendable progress in all studies." The discipline was eminently judicious, apparently.

Whole number scholars attending East school 35.

No. attending to each study as follows:—Reading 35; Spelling 35; Penmanship 29; Arithmetic 31; Geography 25; Grammar 16; History 6; Composition 15; Algebra 1; Physiology 5; Book-keeping 3; Practiced singing 16; Average attendance 30.

Whole number scholars attending West school 24.

No. attending to each study:—Reading 24; Spelling 24; Penmanship 18; Arithmetic 19; Geography 13; Grammar 9; History 6; Composition 9; Drawing 7; Philosophy 5; Practiced singing 9; average attendance 16.

Wages of teacher of East school, twenty four dollars per month.

Wages of teacher of West school, twenty four dollars per month.

IT SEEKS, THEN:

That by March 1, the old districts must go.

That then, the town will be all in one district.

That the duties of prudential and town committee will be done by a School Board of three persons.

That otherwise the old laws in relation to districts and schools remain in force, substantially.

That accordingly selectmen must assess and pay over money for schools as directed by law, or pay out of their own pockets.

That according to law the new board must expend the money as therein expressed, or liable to pay twice the amount.

That this is the safe way; to follow the law.

That this is the only way to collect a tax; follow the law.

That a fair trial of this matter will be a good test.

That the old committees must go.

That this chapter must now close, and

That the foregoing is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH W. BROWN.

Kensington, February 13, 1886.

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